

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Attorney Docket Q60642

second, redundant switching matrix also connected to the interface modules, and a controller for detecting a fault condition of the active switching matrix and for switching to the redundant switching matrix, which is then used as a new active switching matrix, wherein the interface modules are divided into two groups, and each of the two switching matrices is combined with a respective one of the groups of interface modules to form two separate units, which are interconnected by internal links, whereby the units can be installed in two separate rooms.

after line 15, insert the heading **--Detailed Description of the Invention--**

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 4, line 1, delete "or 3".

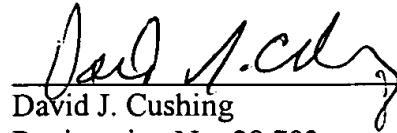
IN THE ABSTRACT:

After the heading, delete the title in its entirety.

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David J. Cushing
Registration No. 28,703

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: October 13, 2000